

Washington State Screenplay Competition

Competition 2003 Sponsors:



See-Through Films



Washington Media Producers Council

Alpha Cine

Dear Competition Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the **Sixth Annual Washington State Screenplay Competition** presented by the Washington State Film Office. Enclosed is the packet of information you will need to enter. Please read everything carefully. If all of the information is not filled out completely and correctly your entry will not be accepted. One of your self-addressed stamped postcards will be sent back to you as confirmation that we received your materials. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND AN ORIGINAL OR THE ONLY COPY OF YOUR SUBMISSION.**

A tiered jury system comprised of industry professionals will evaluate your submission. Each submission will consist of a synopsis and the best ten consecutive pages of your script. In the first week of February, all writers will be notified by postcard as to the standing of their entry. If your entry passes on to the next level, you will be required to submit a full screenplay by February 17, 2003. Please note, 75% of the script must be set in Washington. Submissions that do not pass on to the second level will be shredded for your protection.

Our judging process of the submissions will be "blind" with no regard to authorship. The jury will consist of individuals who have written, directed, or produced feature films.

The second and third place writers will each receive a cash prize of \$500 and the winning writer will receive over \$1,500 in cash and prizes. The top three winners will be given the opportunity to get industry-standard script notes and consultation from a professional story analyst, as well as an introduction to a leading professional studio executive or agent, courtesy of IFP/Seattle. In addition, all winners and runners up will receive a copy of Final Draft Software. The winners will be announced in Daily Variety and Hollywood Reporter in June 2003. The total of cash and prizes awarded will be over \$4,000.

Submissions are now being accepted for a December 9, 2002 deadline. Any questions should be directed to our message center at (206) 260-1687.

Remember to read the material carefully, sign where requested, and enclose the \$35 entry fee for each submission and don't forget your self-addressed stamped postcards. Good luck and we look forward to receiving your material.

Sincerely,

Suzy Kellett
WSSC Partner

Kathleen McInnis
WSSC Partner

Kristina Erickson
WSSC Manager

Washington State Screenplay Competition Official Rules:

- **Eligible applicants must submit the following for each entry:**

1. **Two** copies of the synopsis and two copies of the 10 consecutive pages that are most representative of your script. Author identification must not appear in the text. Please note that if your entry passes to the next level, **two** full screenplays will need to be received in our offices by February 17, 2003.
2. Entry Form
3. Signed Release Form
4. Two self-addressed stamped postcards
5. **\$35 registration fee for each entry payable to:**

WSSC/ WMPC.

Do not send cash.

- Screenplays must have, or have pending, a US Copyright (# 202-707-3000) and/or WGA registration (# 323-782-4500), but not have been previously produced or sold.
- Entries must be original work, adaptations are not acceptable.
- No television pilots, episodes, specials, documentaries, music videos, novels, story treatments, etc. will be eligible.
- Collaborative screenplays will be accepted. One person should be designated as the contact.
- Submissions previously entered in other competitions are eligible.
- Entries must be in US Motion Picture Industry standard format; three-hole punched with card stock covers at front and back, and bound by two brass fasteners. Non-standard submissions will be disqualified from the competition. Type must be clear and readable.
- 75% of your screenplay must be set in Washington State.
- No name, address, phone number, or any other identifying marks may appear anywhere on the submission; only the script's title on the front cover and title page.
- No supplementary material should accompany the submission, e.g., tapes, articles, letters, etc.
- There is no limit to the number of entries submitted.
- The two copies of your entry must be received in our office by Monday, December 9, 2002.
- Do not send the only copy of your material as it may not be returned.

All submissions should be mailed to:

**Washington State Screenplay Competition
2001 Sixth Avenue, Suite 2600
Seattle, Washington 98121**

Phone: (206) 260-1687

ENTRY FORM

(one form per script)

Your synopsis plus ten consecutive pages of your script and all necessary paperwork must be received at the Washington State Screenplay office by December 9, 2002 at 5:00 p.m.

PLEASE PRINT:

Author's Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Home: _____

Work or e-mail: _____

Literary Agent/Agency: _____
(If applicable)

Title of Submitted Material: _____

Screenplay Genre: _____
(Drama, Thriller, Romantic Comedy, etc.)

Check Here if you are an IFP Member: ☐ **Member #:** _____ **Chapter:** _____

Submit to:

Washington State Screenplay Competition
2001 Sixth Avenue, Suite 2600
Seattle, WA 98121
(206) 260-1687

For Office Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Initials: _____

Received all requirements (Two Copies of Synopsis + 10, Entry Form,
Signed Release, Two Self Addressed Stamped Postcards, and
Registration Fee)

Author identification not in text

Script format and appropriate number of pages

Entry number: _____

WGA Standard Guides for Writing Screenplays

1. Interior/Exterior, Location of Scene, Time of Day, First Time Character Appears Per Scene, First Time Items of Extreme Special Interest Appears Per Scene, Camera Directions, and Characters Identified As Speaking are capitalized.
2. Double-spacing occurs between scene identification and narrative; between dialogue and narrative; between camera directions and scene identification.
3. Screenplays are written in Courier 12 point, so that one page equals one minute. Standard screenplays are no longer than 120 pages, and no less than 80 pages.
4. Dialogue occurs in the middle three inches of the page. OS = Off Screen (can not identify source of dialogue from visual image). VO = Voice Over (used as running commentary/narrative). Character speaking is identified every time the character speaks. The use of (cont) is used when dialogue is broken by narrative action or page break.
5. Scene Identification occurs every time the action moves, and/or a camera direction is indicated. Identification includes 1. Interior/Exterior, 2. Physical Local, 3. Time of Day.

SAMPLE PAGE

EXT. BRICK MANSION DAWN

A tall, lanky MAN walks across the front lawn to an immaculate 1958 MERCEDES sitting in the driveway. A small Jack Russell DOG sits on the hood of the car.

MAN
Russ, I told you. No rides in
the morning. Only evenings...

The dog places a paw over his nose while his tail begins to wiggle.

DOG
Woof.

CUT TO:

INT. LARGE BEDROOM SAME

The body of a WOMAN lies across an unmade bed. Tubes of LIPSTICK surround her. She has a smile on her face. She moves her hand to reveal five large diamond RINGS, one on each finger.

RADIO ANNOUNCER VOICE (OS)
Today will be warm and muggy
With expected highs to...

Woman in bed turns over.

RADIO ANNOUNCER VOICE (OS)
(cont.)
...reach 85 degrees.

A small child moves to the bed.

LITTLE GIRL'S VOICE (OS)
My mom never thought much of
the weather...

The woman moves again, and reveals a huge pile of UNCUT DIAMONDS laying amidst the sheets and pillows of her bed. She runs her hands over the pile as she smiles even larger. Her eyes are still shut, but her face is beginning to break out into huge laughter.

A six week old Jack Russell PUPPY is sleeping soundly in the bed with the woman. Upon hearing her laughter, the puppy wakes up and immediately starts wagging its tail as it licks the woman's face.

The woman only laughs louder.

WRITERS RELEASE

I certify that the material I am submitting is original with me, does not defame any person or entity, or violate any copyright, right of privacy or publicity, or any other right of any person or entity; that it is not the subject of any litigation, or claim that might give rise to litigation.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Washington State Film Office and its affiliates, judges, and sponsors for this competition, against any breach of this certification. I understand, as does the Film Office, that federal copyright law applies to the material I have submitted.

This certificate is intended to benefit the Washington State Film Office, its successors, licensees, and assignees.

/X/ _____ Date _____
(Print)

/X/ _____ Date _____
(Signature)

If the submission is a collaboration, this release must be signed by all parties. Additional signatures can be added below. Please indicate who is the primary contact.

/X/ _____ Date _____
(Print)

/X/ _____ Date _____
(Signature)



BEFORE YOU SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY, MAKE SURE YOU HAVE INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING!

- ❑ **Two copies of the synopsis, and two copies of the 10 consecutive pages that are most representative of your script. Author identification must not appear in the text. Please note that if your entry passes to the next level, two full screenplays will need to be received in our offices by February 17, 2003.**
- ❑ **Entry Form**
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- ❑ **Two self-addressed stamped postcards**
- ❑ **\$35 registration fee for each entry payable to:**

WSSC/ WMPC.
Do not Send Cash!
- ❑ **Mailed or delivered to the Washington State Film Office by December 9, 2002!**

Good Luck!